



Green Gardener Training & Certification Program

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Green Gardener Program Background

- 166 Individual Green Gardener Certifications in the Monterey Bay Area since 2005
- Over 60 new Monterey Bay Area students currently enrolled
- 26 new graduates from the Santa Clara Green Gardener Program



Green Gardener Educational Curriculum

- 20 hours of conceptual & experiential learning in Ecological Landscaping
- Skills for Low Impact Developments (LID's)
- 6 hours of the curriculum (30%) directly cover irrigation systems
- Passing final exam and satisfying attendance



Green Gardener Educational Curriculum

- Builds ecological landscaping expertise through focused modules concentrating on individual core competencies





Strengthening observation-based skills

Green Gardener participants learn how to
recognize and address irrigation problems



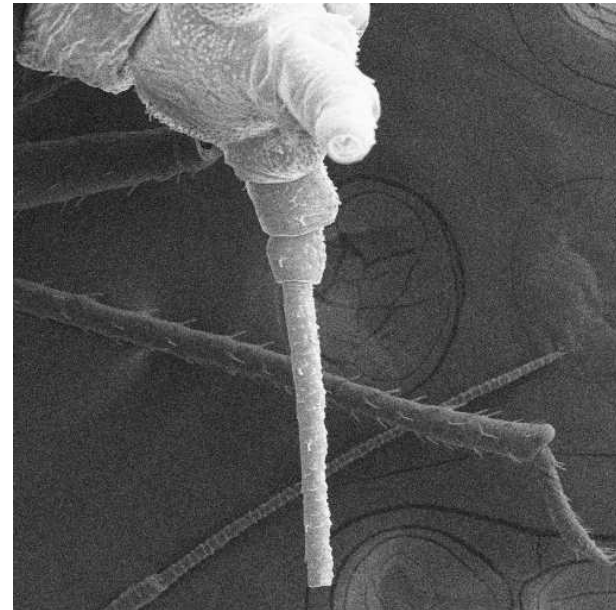


Overview of Green Gardener Curriculum Modules

- Soils
- Irrigation Interactions
- Irrigation Scheduling
- Irrigation Troubleshooting
- Fertilizers
- Right Plant Right Place
- Mulches and Compost
- Pruning for Plant Health
- Integrated Pest Management
- Air Quality + Exam



Improving Garden Pest ID Skills



- **Observation:** weakened, curling, distorted leaves
- **Cause:** Insect mouthpiece (stylet)



Educational Continuity

- Advanced certificate track (20 additional hours)
- Re-certification
- Scholarship for CLCA Water Manager Certification available
- Scholarship for IA Water Auditor Certification available



Building Market Demand

- Neighborhood Leader Sites (3)
will showcase BMP's in three
highly visible neighborhoods
- Garden Learning Centers (2)
will demonstrate LID concepts
through plant materials
selection to minimize landscape
irrigation requirements and
attract beneficial insects



Neighborhood Leader Sites



- Regionally specific native taxa
- Biodegradable erosion control measures (waddles)
- Spot Drip Irrigation to establish



Site Assessment

- Provides Overall Project Objectives
- Provides list of modifications or retrofits in spirit of LID concepts
- Provides in depth description of modifications for property owner to obtain professional quotations



Neighborhood Leader Site Goals

- Reduce urban runoff water pollution potential
- Maximize IPM (Integrated Pest Management) potential of property
- Increase water conservation measures on-site
- Maximize re-use of landscape materials on-site



Neighborhood Leader Site LID Example





Neighborhood Events

- Door to door outreach
- Distribute 'Landscaping Client Preference Document'
- Community Meetings
- Public tour



Green Gardener Client Preference Document

- Water Monitoring & Irrigation
- Pesticides
- Pruning
- Mulch
- Soil Care
- Air Quality
- Plant Selection
- Sustainable Design



Contract Sample

- “Use pest control methods other than chemicals in my landscape first. This includes pruning, rinsing, and using plants attracting beneficials (for example plants attracting insects or birds which naturally prey on garden pests).”



Lessons Learned

Recruit property owner
selectively!

- Strong enthusiasm for water protection
- Willingness and ability to contribute personally
- Property highly visible in neighborhood
- Owners well networked in



Neighborhood Leader Site

(in process, showing turf
already removed)





Statewide Green Gardener

- Santa Clara Valley Urban Runoff Pollution Prevention Program (SCVURPPP) well underway
- Regional Water Authority (RWA)
- Fresno NGO
- City of Napa



Lessons Learned

Several barriers may exist for hosting agency

- Ecology Action is providing consulting services and financial support
- Assist in developing regional stakeholder relations
- Assist in developing instructor resource list and initiating contacts with host educational